



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

[Handwritten signature]

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/537,835	03/29/2000	Paul Andrew Miller	1322/2	6981

25297 7590 09/16/2003
JENKINS & WILSON, PA
3100 TOWER BLVD
SUITE 1400
DURHAM, NC 27707

EXAMINER

TRAN, THIEN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2665

DATE MAILED: 09/16/2003

[Handwritten signature]

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/537,835

Applicant(s)

MILLER ET AL.

Examiner

Thien D Tran

Art Unit

2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-108 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-108 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5-13.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statements filed 03/26/2001 and 06/11/2001 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-108 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being participated by Reiman et al (U.S Patent No. 5,966,431).

Regarding claims 1, 34, 37, 57, 81, 82, 86, 88, Reiman discloses an intelligent service network node (element for providing service control point) or database node front end processing (FEP) service and routing data packets through a communications network, the network element comprising:

Art Unit: 2665

a first communication module capable of transmitting data packets to and receiving data packets from a first communications network, which is SS7 protocol (col.2 line 65 to col.3 line 2, col.7 lines 37-45;

a second communication module capable of transmitting data packets to and receiving data packets from a second communications network, which is inter-packet protocols such as WAN, LAN, Ethernet or Internet (col.2 line 65 to col.3 line 2, col.7 lines 37-45;

a packet discrimination process for determining whether a data is packet received from one of the first and second communications networks is intended for an ISN node or database node that is provisioned to receive front end processing (col.7 lines 10-25);

a database access control (DAC) database containing information related to SCP or database nodes that are provisioned to receive FEP service; and

a DAC process for querying the DAC database and modifying the received packet to include information returned by the DAC database. See col.11 lines 35-55.

Regarding claims 2, 33, 39, 59, 62, 84, 90, 106, 107, Reiman discloses that the received data packet is a signaling system 7 (SS7) signaling message. See col.11 lines 10-15.

Regarding claims 3, 40, 60, 91, Reiman discloses that the SS7 signaling message is a transaction capabilities application part (TCAP or TCAP MSU) message-signaling unit. See col.7 lines 25-35.

Art Unit: 2665

Regarding claims 4, 41, 61, 92, 103, 104, Reiman discloses that the TCAP MSU contains a database query message. See col.10 lines 25-30.

Regarding claims 5, 8, 42, 93, Reiman discloses the first communications network is an SS7 network. See col.4 line 61.

Regarding claims 6, 7, 9, 43, 63, 85, 94-96, Reiman discloses the second communications network is an inter-packet protocol (can Internet protocol network). See col.7 lines 60-65.

Regarding claims 10-14, 44-46, 51, 64-68, 97-99, Reiman discloses that the DAC database includes a plurality of records and each DAC database record includes service type identification information associated with an SCP or database node. See col.24 lines 1-10

Regarding claims 15, 100, 101, Reiman discloses that the service type identification information identifies an advanced intelligent network service. See col.31 lines 5-15.

Regarding claims 16, 35, 49, 70, 87, 102, 108, Reiman discloses that the service type identification information is a translation type value. See col.22 lines 50-65.

Regarding claims 17, 36, 38, 47, 48, 58, 69, Reiman discloses that the service type identification information is a subsystem number. See col.23 lines 32-35.

Regarding claims 18, 71, Reiman discloses that the service type identification information identifies a calling name service. See col.15 lines 50-60.

Regarding claims 19, 72, Reiman discloses that the service type identification information identifies a line information database service. See col.col.15 line 31.

Regarding claims 20, 73, Reiman discloses that the service type identification information identifies a toll free number (800) service. See col.15 line 41.

Regarding claims 21, 22, 74, 75, Reiman discloses that the service type identification information identifies a presence service. See col.2 lines 35-60.

Regarding claims 23, 76, Reiman discloses that the packet discrimination process resides on the interface module. See col.25 lines 55-65.

Regarding claims 24, 78, 79, Reiman discloses that the DAC database is integral with and contained within the network element. See col.24 lines 20-40.

Regarding claims 25-27, Reiman discloses that the DAC database is located on an external database server communicatively coupled to the network element. See col.21 lines 40-65.

Regarding claims 28-30, 50, 52-56, Reiman discloses that DAC protocol translation process for modifying the received data packet to include predetermined database protocol information. See col.2 lines 30-65.

Regarding claims 31, 32, 80, 83, 89, 105, the packet discrimination process is adapted to examine a destination network address in the received data packet. See col.25 line 64.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

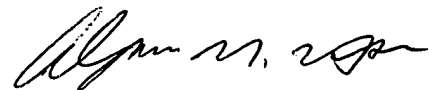
-Liao et al (US Patent No. 6,529,524) discloses computer program products, methods, and protocol for interworking services between a public telephone network, intelligent network, and internet protocol network.

-Miller et al (US Patent No. 6,324,183 B1) discloses system and method for communicating messages among signaling system 7 (SS7) signaling points (SPS) and internet protocol (IP) nodes using signal transfer points.

-Barton et al (US Patent No. 6,307,926 B1) discloses system for detection and prevention of telecommunications fraud prior to call connection.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Thien Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-4388. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (703) 308-6602. Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



**ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**